

Mesa County, Colorado

Population, Employment, and Income Profiles and Trends

Prepared for the:
**Dixie, Fishlake & Manti-La Sal National Forests
Forest Plan Revision
Social and Economic Assessment**

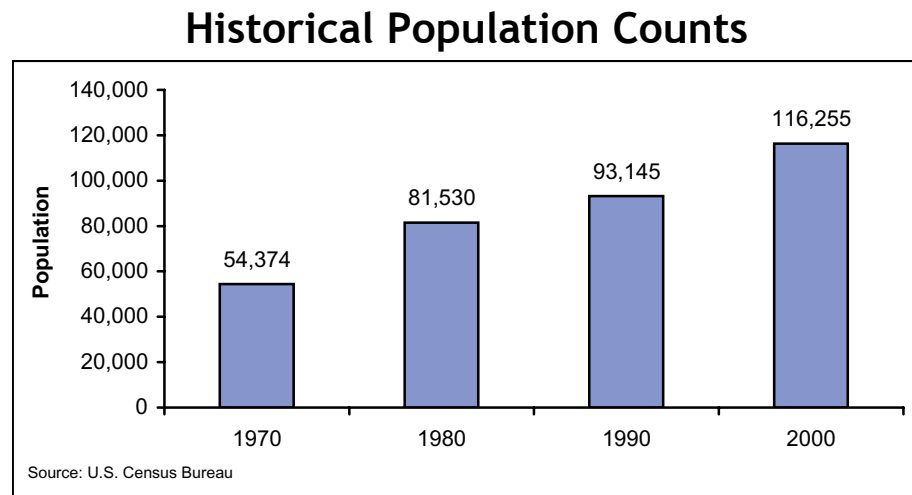


**Utah Governor's Office
of Planning and Budget**
116 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114
(801) 538-1027
www.planning.utah.gov

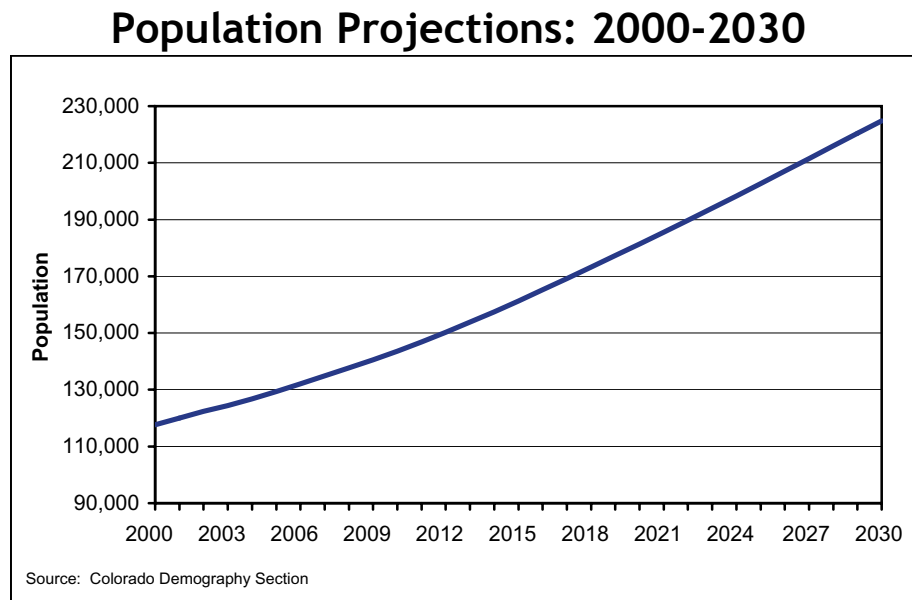
**December
2003**

Historical Population Counts: 1970-2000**Mesa County**

Mesa County grew 50% from 1970 to 1980, 14% from 1980 to 1990 and 25% from 1990 to 2000.

**Population Projections: 2000-2030****Mesa County**

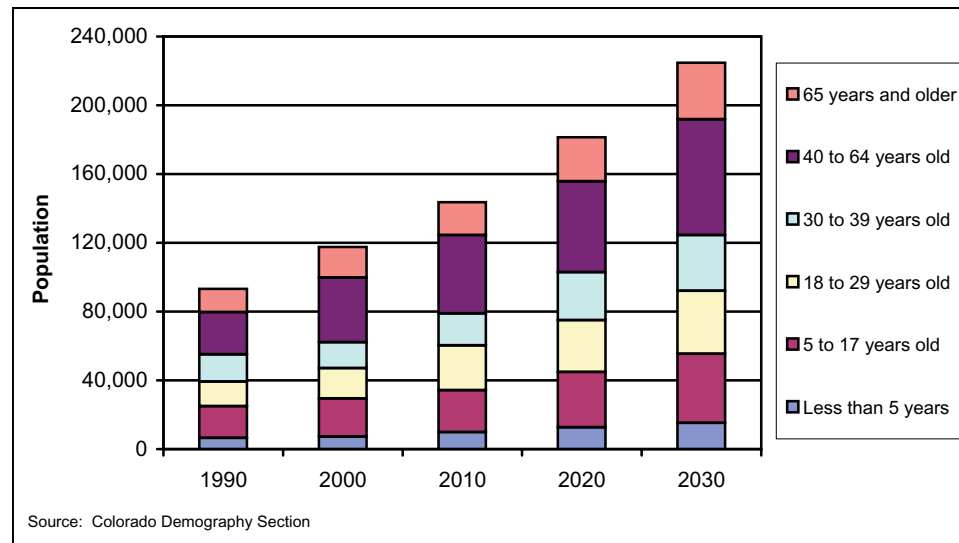
Population is projected to grow at an average annual rate of approximately 2.2% through 2030.



Population by Selected Age Group

Mesa County: 1990-2030

Since 1990, Mesa County has experienced significant growth in the 40-64 age group. This trend is projected to continue from 2000 to 2030.



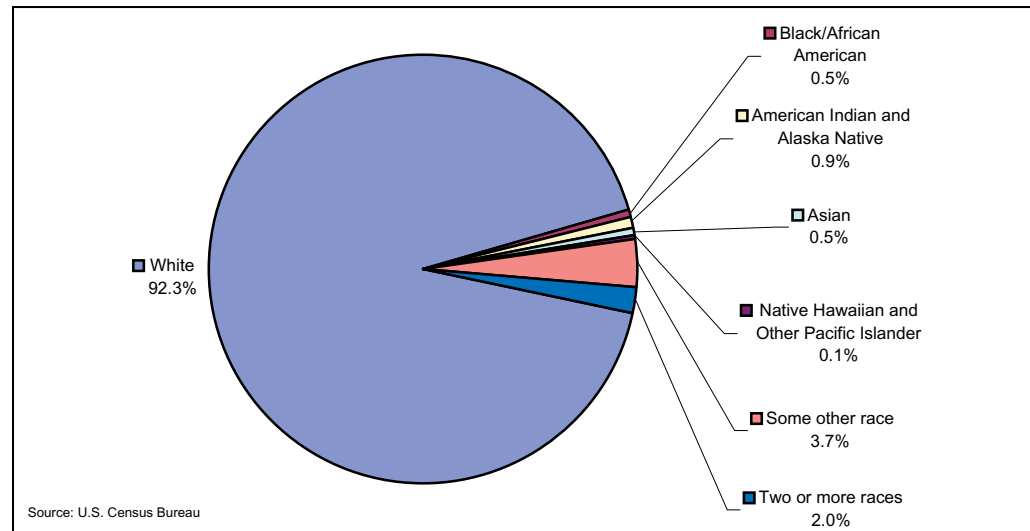
Most Populous Cities

in Mesa County: 1990-2002

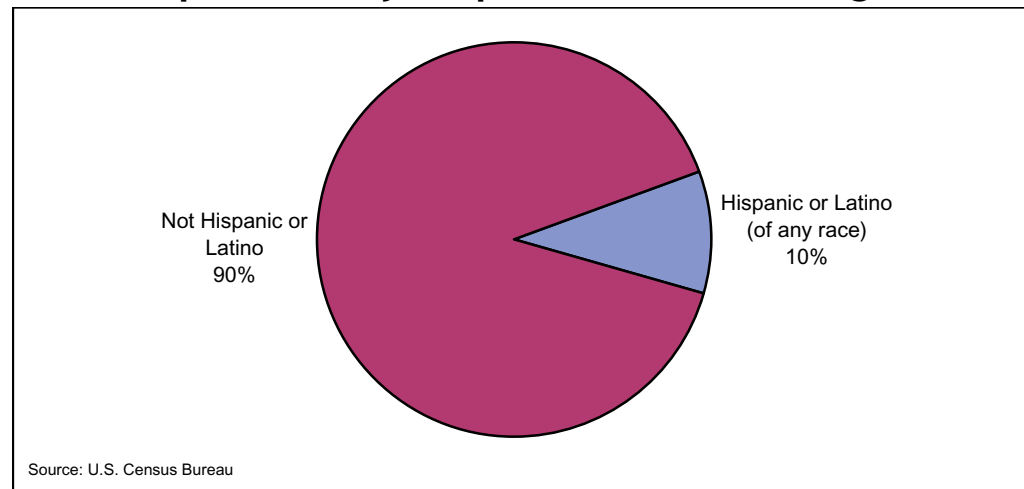
Area	1990	2000	2002	Absolute Change	Percent Change
				2000-2002	
Mesa County, CO	93,145	116,255	121,419	5,164	4.4%
Grand Junction city	29,034	42,755	43,170	415	1.0%
Fruita city	4,045	6,566	6,686	120	1.8%
Palisade town	1,871	2,581	2,627	46	1.8%
De Beque town	257	451	465	14	3.1%
Collbran town	228	394	399	5	1.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Population by Race Mesa County: 2000



Population by Hispanic or Latin Origin Mesa County: 2000



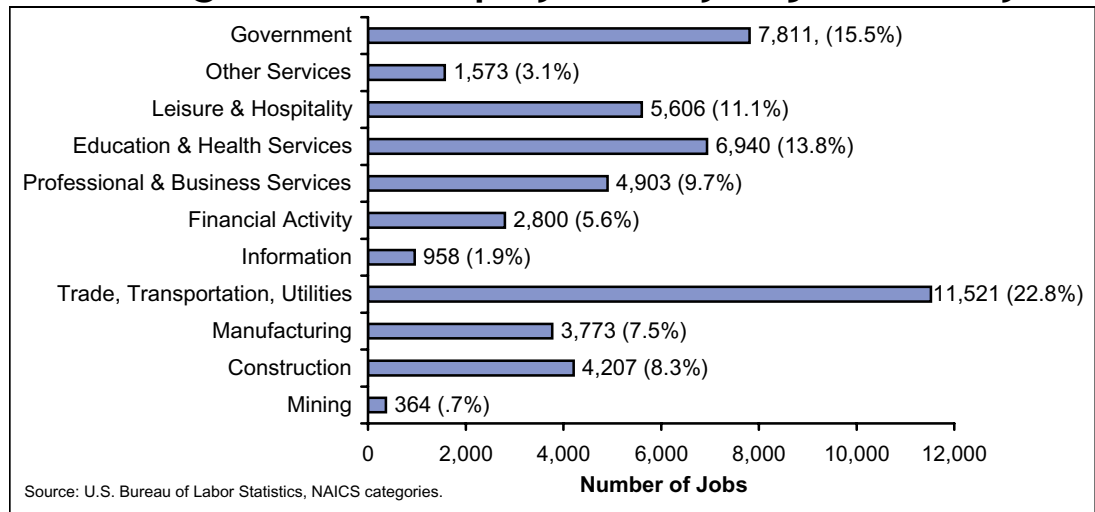
Note: Ethnicity is a different measure of heritage and an ethnic group can span different races. For example, a person of Hispanic origin may be classified as White, Black/African American or another race. Hispanic populations have historically been undercounted in the US Census, so this figure may contain inaccuracies.

Nonagricultural Employment by Major Industry: 2001 Mesa County

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities is currently the largest industry in Mesa County.

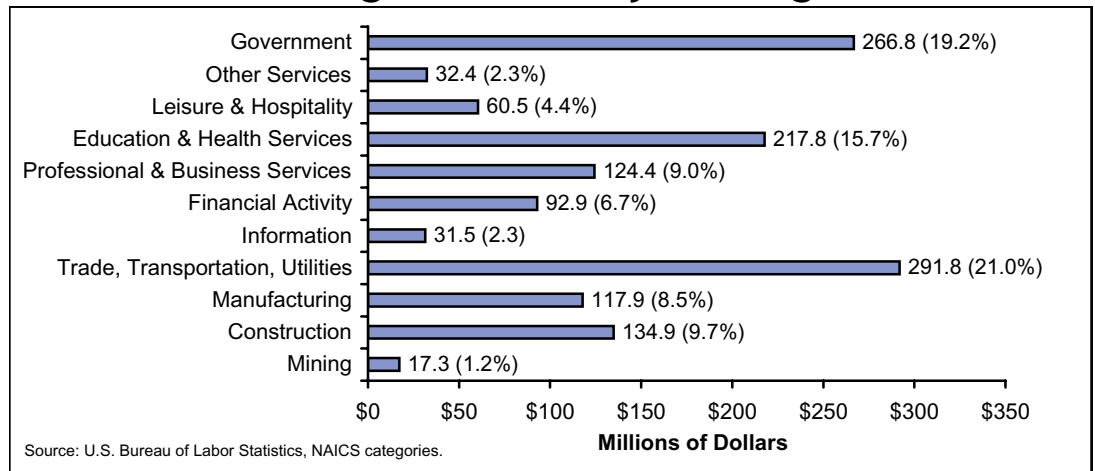
Note: Agriculture is not measured by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is shown instead on p. 5.

Nonagricultural Employment by Major Industry



Nonagricultural Payroll Wages by Major Industry: 2001 Mesa County

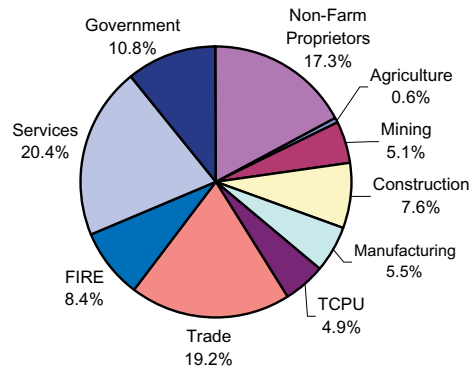
Nonagricultural Payroll Wages



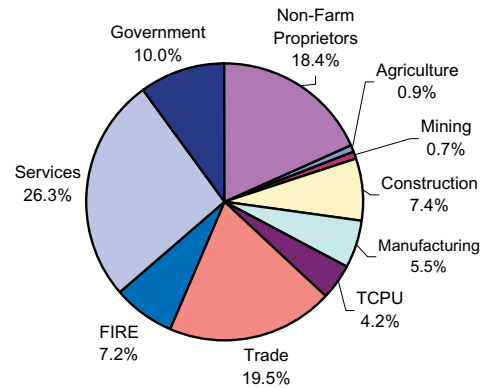
Mesa County Employment by Industry: Past, Present, and Future

As a share of total employment, the Services sector has experienced the greatest increase in Mesa County's economy in the last two decades.

Historical Industry Share of Total Employment: 1980



Current Industry Share of Total Employment: 2000



Projected Industry Share of Total Employment: 2030

Projections by industry are not available for the Colorado Counties

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, SIC categories

Agriculture (Agricultural, forestry, and fishing services) includes all farming activity as well as businesses engaged in agricultural production, forestry, commercial fishing, hunting and trapping, and related services.

Mining includes the extraction of minerals occurring naturally, quarrying, well operations, milling, preparation at the mine site, and exploration and development of mineral properties.

Construction includes new work, additions, alterations, reconstruction, installations, and repairs of structures.

Manufacturing includes the processing of materials (products of agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining, and quarrying) into new products. Examples include food, textiles, mineral processing, lumber, wood products, furniture, paper, machinery, and appliances.

T.C.P.U. (Transportation, communications and public utilities) includes passenger and freight transportation, communications services, electricity, gas, steam, water and sanitary services and all establishments of the United States Postal Service.

Trade includes all wholesale and retail trade. Wholesale trade includes the selling of goods to retailers or other wholesalers. Wholesalers maintain inventories of goods, extend credit; physically assemble, sort, and grade goods in large lots, break bulk goods into smaller lots and advertise.

Retail trade includes the selling of goods for personal or household consumption and rendering services incidental to the sale of the goods. Examples include groceries, hardware, drug store, and other specialty stores.

F.I.R.E. (Finance, insurance, and real estate) includes business that operate in the fields of finance, insurance, and real estate, such as banks, investment companies, insurance agents and brokers; real estate buyers, sellers, and developers.

Services include businesses engaged in providing a wide variety of services for individuals, business, government, and other organizations. Examples include hotels; health, legal, engineering, and professional services; and educational institutions.

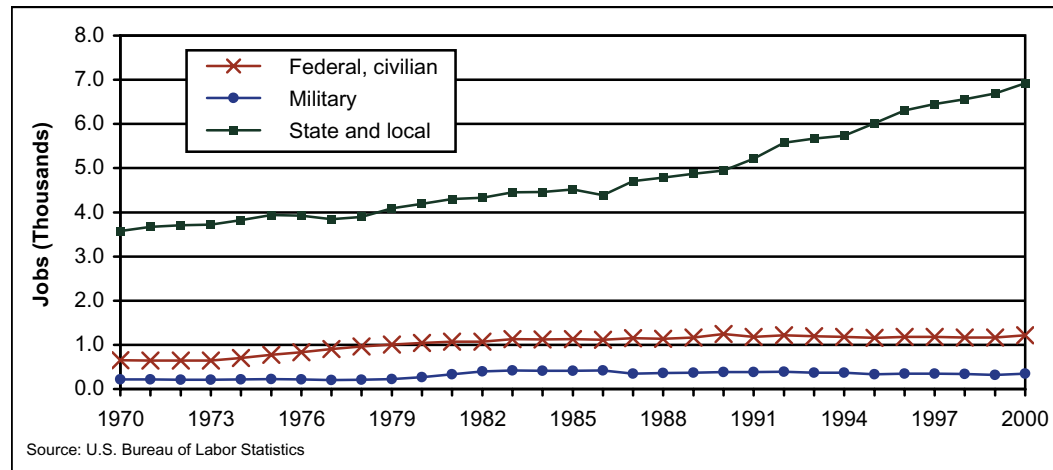
Government includes all Federal, state, and local government employees involved in executive, legislative, judicial, administrative and regulatory activities.

Non-farm proprietors include businesses that operate in a number of trades that are sole ownership or partnerships that have tax-exempt employees. Thus they do not have to report wages in the same manner as other businesses and are harder to categorize.

Source: Employment Sectors defined according to Standard Industry Classification Manual (SIC), 1987.

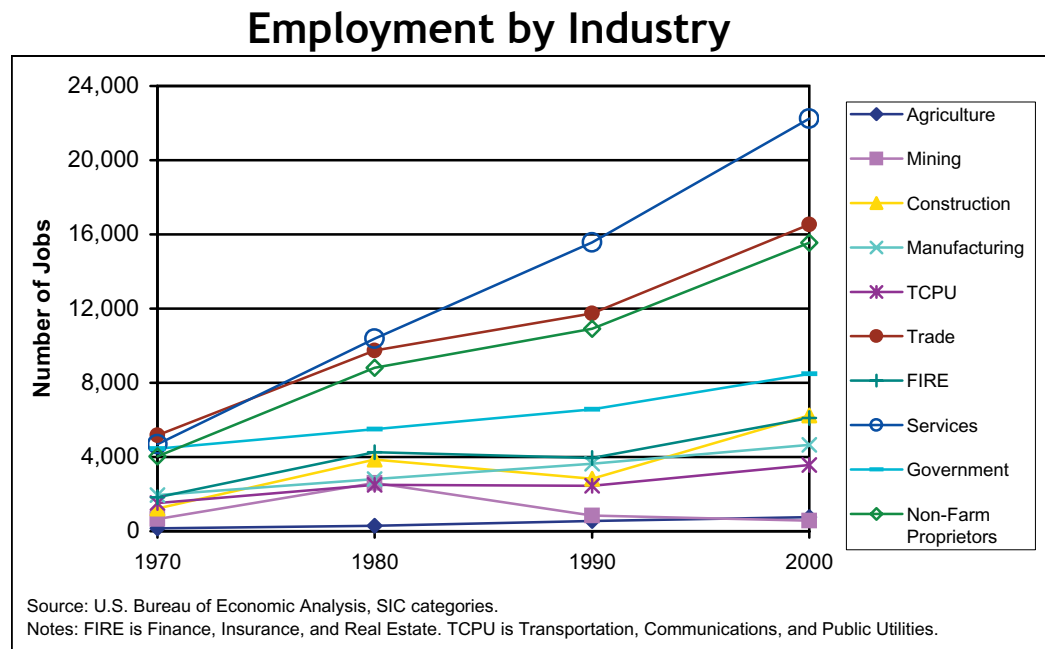
Government Jobs: 1970-2000 Mesa County

Following national trends, growth in Government sector jobs has predominantly been at the state and local level.



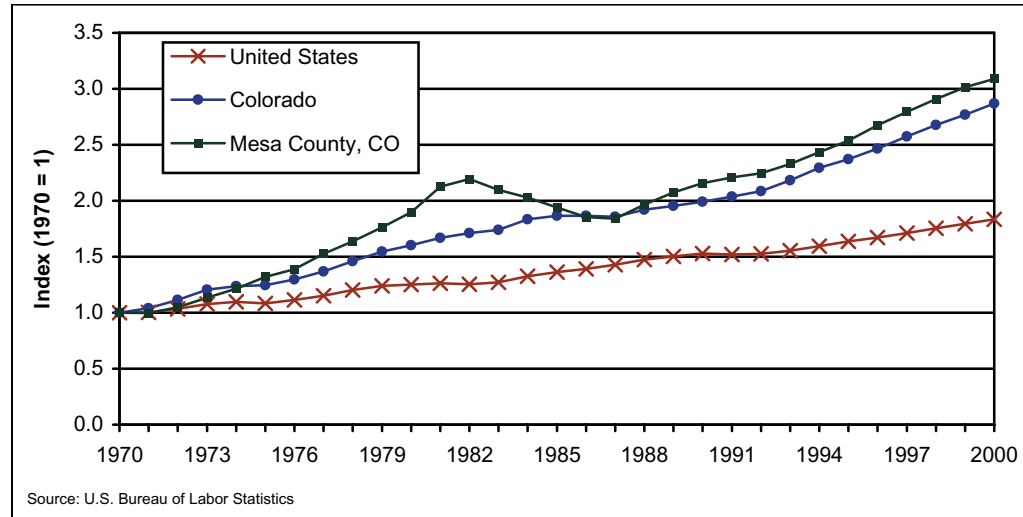
Employment by Industry: 1970-2000 Mesa County

Note: Projections by industry are not available for the Colorado Counties, thus, this data reflects historical numbers only.

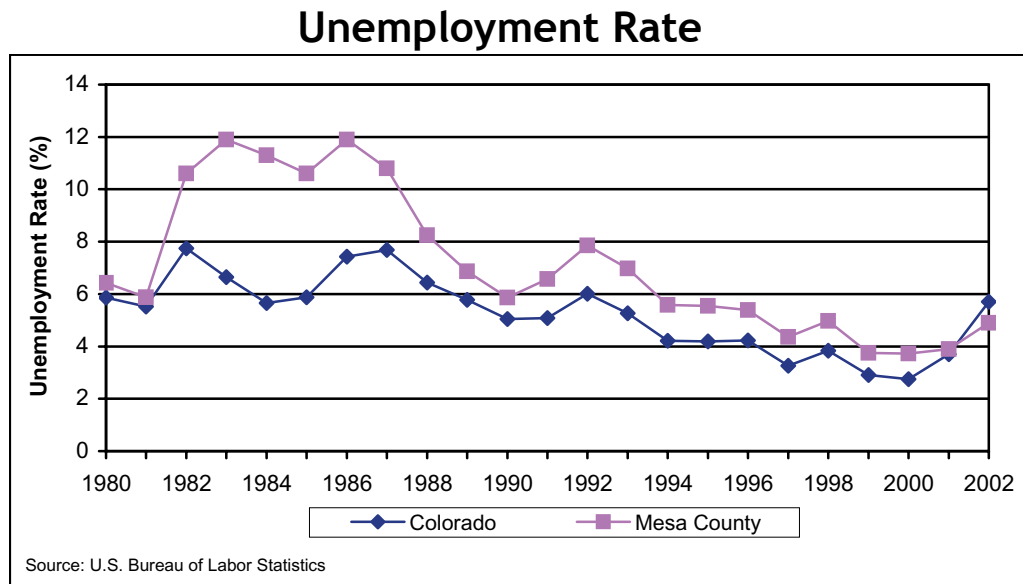


Job Growth Rate: 1970-2000 Mesa County vs. State vs. Nation

Employment growth in Mesa County has outpaced the State of Colorado since the early 1970s.



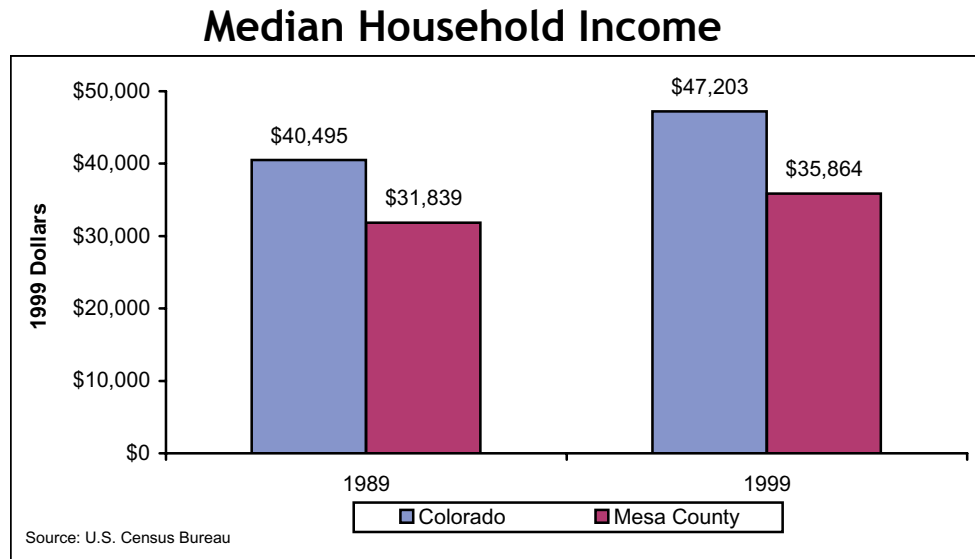
Unemployment: 1980-2002 Mesa County vs. State



Median Household Income: 1989 & 1999 Colorado vs. Mesa County

The median household income figures for Mesa County were lower than the Colorado state average but higher than those in the Manti-La Sal impact area in 1989 (\$30,965), and 1999 (\$33,276)

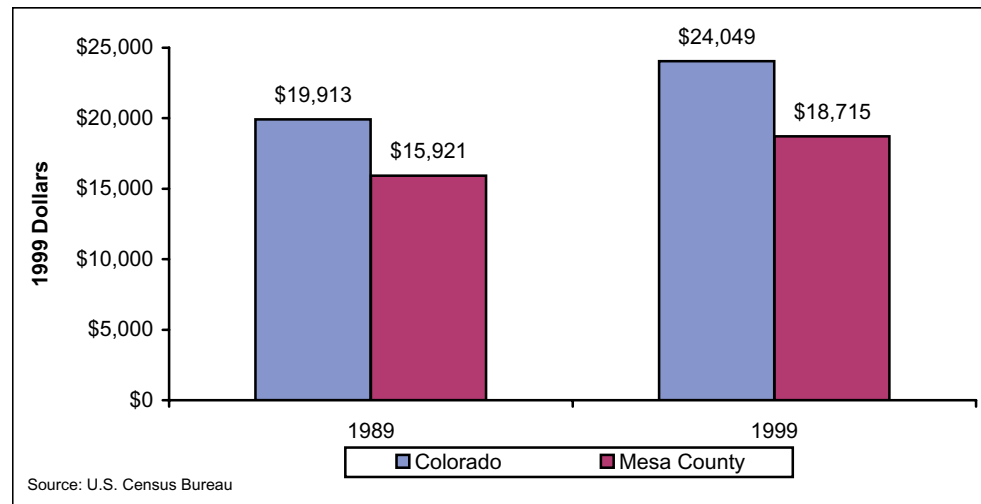
Note: The Manti-La Sal impact area consists of Sanpete, Carbon, Emery, Grand, and San Juan Counties, Utah.



Per Capita Income: 1989 & 1999 Colorado vs. Mesa County

The per capita income figures for Mesa County were much lower than the Colorado state average but higher than those in the Manti-La Sal impact area in 1989 (\$11,509), and 1999 (\$13,588).

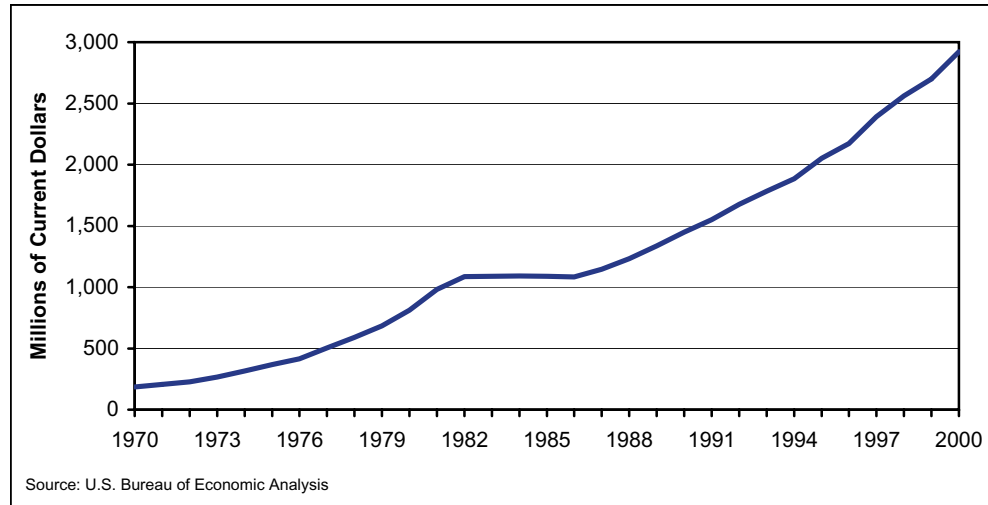
Note: 1989 income values have been adjusted to 1999 constant dollars by dividing 1989 dollar values by a deflator factor of 0.744298.



Total Personal Income: 1970-2000 Mesa County

Personal income in Mesa County has been on the rise the past 30 years.

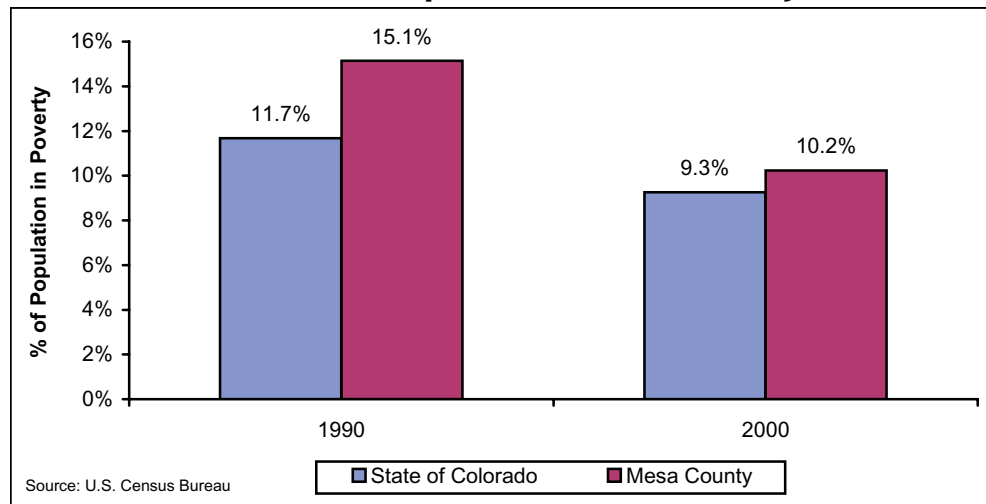
Note: These numbers have not been inflation adjusted. Total personal income is a measure of regional economic growth, comparable to the Gross Domestic Product.



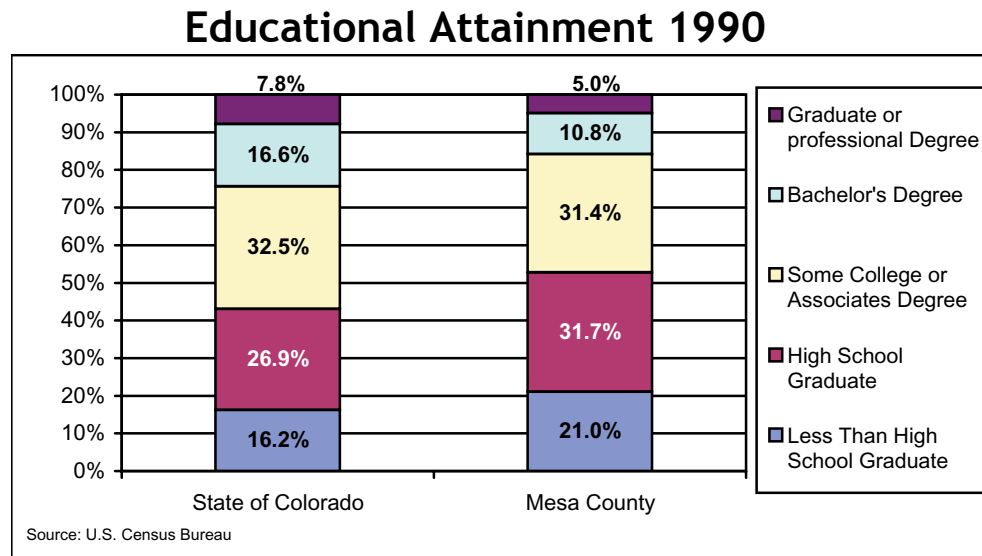
Population in Poverty: 1990-2000 Colorado vs. Mesa County

The percent of population in poverty decreased 4.9% in Mesa County from 1990 to 2000, but remained higher than the State of Colorado.

Note: Poverty is calculated by median household income to a nationally calculated "poverty threshold" for a family of 4 people, including 2 children. The poverty threshold in 1999 was \$16,895.

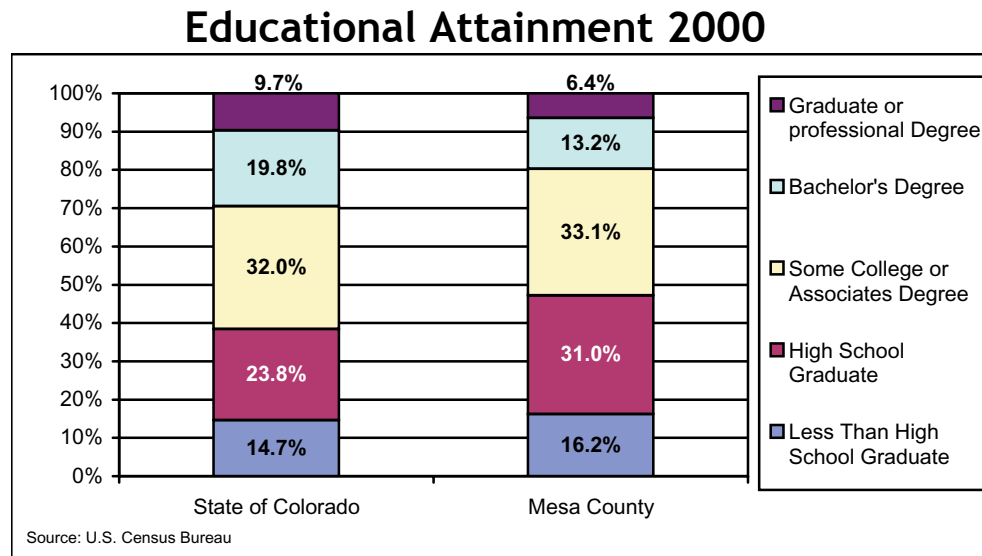


Educational Attainment: 1990 Colorado vs. Mesa County



Educational Attainment: 2000 Colorado vs. Mesa County

The percent of Mesa County residents with some form of post-secondary education increased from 1990 to 2000.



Note: Educational attainment figures are for the population 18 years and older.